

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → [+]

PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

|   |   |    |   |                          |                        |
|---|---|----|---|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO   |   |    |   | <b>Complete if Known</b> |                        |
| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br>(use as many sheets as necessary) |   |    |   | Application Number       | 10/787,120             |
|   |   |    |   | Filing Date              | February 27, 2004      |
|   |   |    |   | First Named Inventor     | Koichiro TANAKA et al. |
|   |   |    |   | Group Art Unit           | 2892                   |
|   |   |    |   | Examiner Name            | Chuong A. Luu          |
| Sheet   | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number   | 0756-7259              |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |                      |                                      |  |  |   |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| Examiner<br>Initials  | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | U.S. Patent Document |                                      | Name of Patentee or Applicant of<br>Cited Document | Date of Publication of Cited<br>Document<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                       |                          | Number               | Kind Code <sup>2</sup><br>(if known) |  |  |   |
|                       |                          |                      |                                      |  |  |   |
|                       |                          |                      |                                      |  |  |   |
|                       |                          |                      |                                      |  |  |   |
|                       |                          |                      |                                      |  |  |   |
|                       |                          |                      |                                      |  |  |   |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |                         |                     |                                      |   |  |   |                |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials     | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document |                     |                                      | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited<br>Document | Date of Publication of Cited<br>Document<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>or Relevant Figures Appear | † <sup>4</sup> |
|                          |                          | Office <sup>3</sup>     | Number <sup>4</sup> | Kind Code <sup>2</sup><br>(if known) |   |  |   |                |
|                          |                          | JP                      | 56-029323           |                                      |   | 03/24/1981   |   | Abst.          |
|                          |                          |                         |                     |                                      |   |  |   |                |
|                          |                          |                         |                     |                                      |   |  |   |                |
|                          |                          |                         |                     |                                      |   |  |   |                |
|                          |                          |                         |                     |                                      |   |  |   |                |
|                          |                          |                         |                     |                                      |   |  |   |                |
|                          |                          |                         |                     |                                      |   |  |   |                |

| OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |                          |   |                |
|---|--------------------------|---|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials                              | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the<br>item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s),<br>publisher, city and/or country where published. | † <sup>2</sup> |
|   |                          |   |                |
|   |                          |   |                |
|   |                          |   |                |

|                       |  |                    |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner<br>Signature |  | Date<br>Considered |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.